

**Sluice system for a vacuum coating facility****Patent claims**

1. Sluice system for a vacuum coating facility for coating substrates that can be moved through the vacuum coating in a direction of conveyance. On the input and output sides, the said sluice comprises a prevacuum sluice chamber and a transfer chamber adjoining a coating chamber, wherein a fine vacuum can be regulated before the transfer chamber on the input side in the direction of conveyance and after the transfer device on the output side in the direction of conveyance, characterized such that the prevacuum sluice chamber (2) directly adjoins the transfer chamber (3) and the fine vacuum can be regulated in the prevacuum sluice chamber (2).
2. Sluice system according to Claim 1, characterized such that a prevacuum pump system (6) and a fine vacuum (12) can be connected to the prevacuum sluice chamber (2) respectively.
3. Sluice system according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized such that the prevacuum pump (6) can be connected to the fine vacuum pump system (12).
4. Vacuum coating system according to Claim 1 to 3, characterized such that the pressure side of a main pump of the fine vacuum system (14) is connected to the intake side of a support pump (15) and the pressure side of the main pump of the fine vacuum system (14) can be connected to the intake side of a main pump of the prevacuum pump system (8) via a connection line (17) with regulating valve (18).